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COUNTY BOROUGH OF WALLASEY.



ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

Medical Officer of Health

AND

School Medical Officer

FOR THE YEAR

1942.

RONALD B. BERRY, M.D., Ch.B., D.P.H.,
*Medical Officer of Health, Medical Superintendent
of the Corporation Infectious Diseases Hospital,
Administrative Tuberculosis Officer, School Medical
Officer, etc.*

WILLMER BROS. & CO., LTD., BIRKENHEAD.

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Public Health Department,

July, 1943.

The Mayor, Aldermen and Councillors of the
County Borough of Wallasey.

Mr. Mayor, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have pleasure in submitting my Annual Report for the year 1942.

This Report is again, for obvious reasons, considerably reduced in size, and little more than a series of statistical tables.

There is a higher birth-rate to record, the figure being the highest since 1922.

The Infant Mortality figure of 47·7 per 1,000 births, is the lowest since 1935, and below the rate of the country as a whole.

The Statistics generally confirm the view that the health of the people has not suffered on account of war conditions, and are a proof that rationing, with the provision of supplements in appropriate cases is maintaining, and possibly in some cases, improving the health of the population.

The method of dealing with families at the Scabies Clinic, with the assistance of Civil Defence personnel, is proving effective, and this troublesome condition is being kept well in hand by the methods adopted.

Our own efforts to increase immunisation against Diphtheria, supported by the extensive national campaign, have been very successful, as will be seen by the figures in the Report. I should like to commend the enthusiastic work of Dr. Lewit, and the valuable assistance of the personnel of Church Street First Aid Post in this respect.

The existence of maternity accommodation at "The Garth" Neston, enabled us to deal with most of the applications for maternity accommodation, but the increase in the population and the birth-rate, and the increasing difficulties in making proper provision at home, particularly in the way of domestic help, are increasing the demands on the existing accommodation. The Committee's efforts to extend this accommodation have, so far, not been successful.

The work at Mill Lane Hospital has been carried out in spite of extreme difficulties with regard to staff. It is doubtful if we would have been able to carry on without the assistance of the nurses from the First Aid Post, Princes Road, and others.

The Staff, many of them temporary, have willingly supported all the efforts of the Department, and to them, and to the Committee for their generous support, I should like to express my thanks.

I am,

Mr. Mayor, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

RONALD B. BERRY,

Medical Officer of Health.

GENERAL STATISTICS.

Area in Acres, as ascertained by Ordnance Survey,						
January, 1932	...	...	...	...	...	5,908
River and Sea frontage	...	...	...	Slightly less than eight miles.		
Census Population, April, 1931	...	...	...	...		97,626
Registrar-General's estimated population at middle of 1942	...	...	...	...		68,530
Ministry of Food estimated population at middle of 1942	...	...	...	...		67,413
"	"	"	"	"	1943	74,261
Inhabited houses at 31st December, 1942	...	...	...	...	} * Information not available.	
Empty	"	"	"	"		
Rateable Value, 1939-1940	...	...	...	...		£877,164
"	"	1941-1942	...	...	} *Information not available	
"	"	1942-1943	...	...
Yield of a Penny Rate	...	...	...	...

	<i>M.</i>	<i>F.</i>	<i>Total</i>
Live Births—Legitimate	567	537	1104
Illegitimate	53	38	91
	<hr/> 620	<hr/> 575	<hr/> 1195
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>

Birth Rate—17.4 per 1,000 population.

Still Births, 40. Rate per 1,000 total (live and still) births—32.4

	<i>M</i>	<i>F</i>	<i>Totals</i>
Deaths to Dec. 31st ...	472	430	902
Death-rate per 1,000 of estimated population	...	...	13.2
Uncertified Deaths : Nil. ; Percentage of Deaths : —.			

Deaths from diseases and accidents of pregnancy and child-birth (Headings 29 and 30 of Registrar-General's Short List) :—

Puerperal Sepsis 4.	Rate per 1,000 live and still-births 3.21	} Total
Other puerperal causes—1.	do. 0.80	
		4.01

Deaths of Infants under ONE year of age ... 57

Death-rate of Infants under ONE year of age :—

All infants per 1,000 live births	...	...	...	47.7
Legitimate infants per 1,000 legitimate live births	...	...	...	46.2
Illegitimate infants per 1,000 illegitimate live births...	...	...	...	65.9
Neo-Natal Rate per 1,000 births	...	...	...	22.6

Deaths from Measles (all ages)	...	...	...	2
Deaths from Whooping Cough (all ages)	...	...	...	—
Deaths from Diarrhoea (including Enteritis), under 1 year	4			} 4
Under 2 years	—			
Diarrhoea and Enteritis Mortality Rate under 1 year, per 1,000 live births	...	...	...	3.51

* Owing to the large number of premises damaged by enemy action, also the movement of population, these figures are not available.



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STATISTICAL SUMMARY OF

[illegible]

DEATHS DURING THE YEAR 1942.

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DEATHS IN PUBLIC INSTITUTIONS. IN WALLASEY.

MILL LANE HOSPITAL—		
Residents		18
Non-Residents		2
HIGHFIELD MATERNITY HOSPITAL—		
Residents		8
Non-Residents		—
VICTORIA CENTRAL HOSPITAL—		
Residents		72
Non-Residents		5
WALLASEY COTTAGE HOSPITAL—		
Residents		27
Non-Residents		4
LEASOWE CHILDREN'S HOSPITAL—		
Residents		3
Non-Residents		11
OTHER PUBLIC INSTITUTIONS—		
Residents		—
Non-Residents		—
TOTAL		150

ELSEWHERE.

LIVERPOOL AND OTHER HOSPITALS—	
Excluding Sanatoria)	57
BIRKENHEAD MUNICIPAL HOSPITAL	154
COUNTY MENTAL HOSPITAL	20
OTHER MENTAL HOSPITALS	3
SANATORIA outside Wallasey	1
TOTAL	235

DEATHS OUTSIDE WALLASEY—

Not in Public Institutions	
INWARD TRANSFERS	43

TRANSFERABLE DEATHS—

In Wallasey of Non-residents	
OUTWARD TRANSFERS	33

INQUESTS.

Residents (all Ages)	45	} 55
Non-Residents (all ages)	10	
Legitimate Children—Under 1 year	—	
1 and Under 2 years	—	
2 years and over	1	
Illegitimate Children—under 1 year	3	
1 and under 2 years	—	
2 years and under 5 years	—	

DEATHS OF CHILDREN UNDER 1 YEAR BELONGING TO WALLASEY.

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	Total
	3	2	2	4	4	1	6	9	6	7	2	1	—	2	3	5	—	57

DEATHS OF ILLEGITIMATE INFANTS BELONGING TO WALLASEY.

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	Total
1a.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	1	—	1	2	—	—	6
2.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
3.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	1	—	1	2	—	—	6

CAUSES OF ILLEGITIMATE DEATHS UNDER 2 YEARS OF AGE.

No.	Cause of Death.	Age
rans.	1a. Congenital heart failure	2 days.
rans.	1a. Toxaemia (b.) Gastro-enteritis 2 Marasmus.	2 mths.
rans.	1a. Prematurity	
	2 Prolapse of cord by tranverse lie. Asphyxia.	3 Mins.
401	Suffocated whilst in bed with his mother (Accidental).	6 Weeks.
376	Asphyxia by drowning (Conviction of infantcide). ..	5 Weeks.
488	Want of attention at birth.	30 Mins.

Zymotic Death-rate per 1,000 of population (excluding Diarrhoea)	0.20
Phthisis Death-rate per 1,000 of population	0.54
Respiratory Death-rate per 1,000 of population (excluding Phthisis)	1.11

PRINCIPAL CAUSES OF DEATH.

Heart Diseases.....	251	Intracranial Vascular Lesions	82
Other Circulatory Diseases	25	Congenital Debility, Premature Births etc....	33
Cancer	144	Violent Deaths (including suicides).....	30
Respiratory Diseases—		Diphtheria	12
Pneumonia 26	} 76	Acute and Chronic Nephritis	38
Bronchitis..... 37			
Other..... 13			
Phthisis.....	37		
Other Tuberculous Diseases	10		

HOSPITAL SERVICES (within the Borough).

The following Hospitals and Institutions are PROVIDED by the LOCAL AUTHORITY within the Borough :—

1. Mill Lane Hospital : For Infectious Diseases (other than small pox).
2. Tuberculosis Sanatorium : One block, 22 beds, and one chalet with one bed, for advanced and observation cases.
3. Highfield Maternity Hospital : 21 Beds.

In addition to the above there are the following Voluntary Hospitals within the Borough :—

4. VICTORIA CENTRAL HOSPITAL : General Hospital with 135 Beds (including 35 for children). There is an out-patient department. There is also a charitable Dispensary on the same premises.
5. WALLASEY COTTAGE HOSPITAL : General Hospital with 41 beds, which are used for men, women and children as necessity arises. This Hospital also has an out-patient department.
6. LIVERPOOL OPEN-AIR HOSPITAL FOR CHILDREN LEASOWE : Orthopaedic Hospital with 236 beds (198 for children and 38 for adult females). Patients are admitted to this Hospital from various parts of the country. The Corporation has ten beds in this Hospital on terms.

HOSPITAL SERVICES (Outside the Borough).

BIRKENHEAD MUNICIPAL HOSPITAL : 125 beds are available at this Institution for sick, maternity and mental cases.

PUBLIC ASSISTANCE.

Admissions to :—

B'head Municipal Instit'n	189	Eastham House	5
B'head Municipal Hospital	398	County Mental Hospital ...	33

ECONOMIC CONDITIONS.

The number of unemployed persons in the Borough in January, 1942, was 349, and in December, 268 as compared with 1,237 and 507 respectively in January and December, 1941.

During, 1942, the following amounts were expended on Unemployment, etc. Benefit by the Wallasey Employment Exchange :—

Agricultural Benefit	...	...	...	...	£133	0	0
General Scheme Benefit	...	...	...	...	£8,389	0	0
Unemployment Assistance Allowances	...	...	...	...	£2,742	0	0

In addition the Public Assistance Committee expended £14,459 7s. 7d. on outdoor relief and £250 6s. 6d. to Unemployment cases.

MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE.

ANTE-NATAL.

The Clinics, at which a woman doctor is in attendance, are held on the following days :—

NEW STREET—Monday, 2-0—4-0 p.m.

„ „ —Tuesday and Thursday, 10-0—12 noon.

OAKENHOLT ROAD, MORETON—2nd and 4th Wednesday of each month, 2-30—4-0 p.m.

Special cases are referred from these Clinics to the Consultant Obstetrician who visits Highfield Maternity Hospital and his services are available whenever required.

The following figures summarise the work done at the Ante-natal and at the Post-natal Clinics during the year :—

ANTE-NATAL.

Expectant mothers on books at January 1st	...	...	...	...	134
New cases during the year	...	...	...	...	542
Names on books at December 31st	...	...	...	...	157
Attendances of Expectant Mothers	...	...	...	...	2040
No. of Expectant Mothers attending Consultative Ante-Natal Clinic	...	...	...	...	62
„ Attendances	...	...	...	...	93
First-visits to homes of Expectant Mothers	...	...	...	...	812
Revisits do. do. do.	...	...	...	...	318

MATERNITY EMERGENCY UNIT.

The Corporation has an arrangement with the Liverpool Maternity Hospital for the use in Wallasey of the Maternity Unit for dealing with difficult domiciliary obstetric emergencies.

MIDWIVES ACT.

Fifteen Midwives notified their intention to practise in the Borough during the year (excluding eight at the Corporation Maternity Hospital and five Municipal Midwives).

During 1942 the five Municipal Midwives attended 339 cases ; of these, 113 were attended as maternity Nurses.

Midwives in private practice attended 112 cases of which 3 were attended as maternity nurses.

The following is a list of the causes for which Medical help was sought:—

CONDITION OF MOTHER.

			Private M'wives	M'cipal M'wives
Protracted labour	...	...	3	5
Retained placenta	...	...	—	3
„ membranes	...	...	—	3
Post-partum Haemorrhage	...	...	1	1
Ante-partum Haemorrhage	...	...	1	2
Laceration of Perineum	...	...	8	33
Albuminuria	...	...	—	—
Rise of Temperature	...	...	1	3
Uterine Inertia	...	...	—	2
Miscarriage	...	...	—	2
Abortion	...	...	—	—
Mal-presentation	...	...	2	8
Abnormal presentation	...	...	—	—
General weakness	...	...	1	1
Pyrexia	...	...	—	2
Various other causes	...	...	2	8

CONDITION OF CHILD.

Feebleness of Infant	...	...	2	3
Prematurity	...	...	—	2
Inflamed Eyelids	..	...	2	23
Other Conditions	.	...	—	3

EVACUATION.

In March, 1941 the Ministry of Health opened a Maternity Home at Neston for expectant mothers from Wallasey and other evacuation areas. In April, 1941 a Hostel was opened where expectant mothers in the last month of pregnancy could stay prior to their admission to the Maternity Home, together with their children under five years of age.

Both these institutions are administered by the Cheshire County Council on behalf of the Ministry of Health.

During the year 128 expectant mothers were evacuated under these arrangements, 123 of them being admitted to the Hostel.

HIGHFIELD MATERNITY HOSPITAL.

The accommodation at this hospital was again in great demand and many requests for admission had to be refused.

During the year 436 cases were admitted:—

	In Hosp. Jan. 1/42	No. of Admis- sions 1942	Confine- ments 1942	No. of Children	Dls- charged Undelivered	Admit- ted after C'ment	Abortion	Remain- ing Dec. 31st 1942
Doctors' cases	6	285*	282	283†	1	1	—	11
Midwives cases	7	151*	148	150†	1	1	—	10

†Twins, 1. ‡Twins, 2. *Confined 1943, 1.

	Total	Doctors' cases	Midwives' cases
No. of Stillbirths ...	12	11	1
Infant Deaths ...	8	4	4
Perineal Repairs ...	197	148	49
Breech Presentation	16	10	6
Puerperal Pyrexia ...	4	4	—
Rise of Temperature	21	11	10
Toxaemia of Pregnancy	12	10	2
Forceps ...	95	84	11
Episiotomies ...	18	16	2
Maternal Deaths ...	—	—	—

Puerperal Pyrexia.—Sapraemia 1. Stitch Abscess (Caesarian) 1.
Bronchitis 1. Pyelitis and Ischio Rectal Abscess 1.

Infant Deaths :—8.

Intra Cranial Injury 1. Prematurity 5*.
Asphyxia Pallida 1. Prematurity and Asphyxia 1.
* 2 twins and 1 of twins.

Operations :—

Caesarians... ..	4	Perforation and Extraction	1
Manual Removal of Placenta	4	External Version	1
Blood Transfusion ...	1	Circumcision	22
Episiotomies	18		

Complications :—

Ante-Natal :—

A.P.H.	3	Uterine Fibroid	1
Contracted Pelvis ...	1	Scabies	2

MOTHER.

Post Natal—(other than Pyrexia cases).

P.P.H.	12	Retained Products	8
Mastitis	3	Breast Abscess	3
Phlebitis	4	Puerperal Insanity	1
Subinvolution	1	Other Conditions	12

CHILD.

Sticky eyes	2	Other Conditions	22
--------------------	---	-------------------------	----

Abnormal Presentations :—

Breech ...	16—6 with extended legs.	Face to Pubis ...	2
P.O.P. ...	1.	Impacted Face ...	1

2 mothers transferred to Birkenhead Municipal Hospital
and 1 baby to Victoria Central Hospital.

In the 151 Midwives cases doctors were called for 85.

<i>Mother</i>			<i>Child</i>		
Torn Perineum ...	...	40	Sticky Eyes ...	...	1
Breech Presentation ...	...	4	Phimosis ...	...	3
Rise of Temperature ...	...	2	Other Conditions ...	...	3
A.P.H. ...	...	2			
P.P.H. ...	...	4			
Toxaemia ...	...	2			
Delayed Labour ...	...	13			
Retained Products ...	...	3			
Phlebitis ...	...	2			
Breast Abscess ...	...	2			
Prolapsed Cord ...	...	1			
Other conditions ...	...	3			
		78			

MATERNITY CASES ADMITTED TO BIRKENHEAD MUNICIPAL HOSPITAL.

The Corporation have made a declaration under Section 5 of the Local Government Act, 1929, to the effect that as and from 1st October, 1939, all assistance granted by the Council under the Maternity and Child Welfare Acts, as amended by the Public Health Act, 1936, be granted by virtue of those Acts and not by way of Poor Law Relief. During the year 57 cases were admitted to the Birkenhead Municipal Hospital under this arrangement.

PUERPERAL PYREXIA.

There were six notifications of Puerperal Pyrexia during the year, one of which proved fatal.

MATERNAL MORTALITY.

There were five Maternal Deaths. It is interesting to record that only one of these followed a full-time pregnancy, death in this case being due to sepsis following Caesarian Section for threatened uterine rupture in a case of contracted pelvis (an unmarried mother).

Two were cases of septic infection following miscarriage, and two of sepsis following abortion (one complicated with Syphilis). In none of these cases can interference be ruled out.

Three of the five Maternal deaths occurred in the Birkenhead Municipal Hospital and one in the Victoria Central Hospital.

OPHTHALMIA NEONATORUM.

Three of the Health Visitors are qualified to treat, by douching, the eyes of children suffering from Ophthalmia Neonatorum. Three cases were notified during the year and were cured with no impairment of vision.

CHILD WELFARE.

The Clinics at which a doctor attends on each occasion, are held in the afternoon of the following days:—

New Street Centre—Tuesdays. Field Road—Thursdays.

Wallasey Village—Wednesdays Oakenholt Rd., Moreton—Tues

The number of attendances during the year was:—

	New Street	Moreton	New Brighton	Wallasey Village	Totals
Children under one year of age ..	3,137	1,710	2,007	2,956	9,810
Children between one and five yrs.	120	147	571	444	1,282

SUMMARY OF VISITS PAID BY HEALTH VISITORS.

First visits and revisits to Infants under one year of age	...	4,713
Visits and revisits to Children one to five years of age	...	4,144
Total visits and revisits to children under one and up to five years of age for any purpose whatsoever, including 590 visits and revisits re Minor Infections	... ..	9,447
Visits re notified Infectious Diseases	... ..	1,303
„ Infant Life Protection	... ..	62
„ and re-visits to expectant mothers	... ..	1,130

NUTRITION.

NATIONAL DRIED MILK, FRUIT JUICES, Etc.

Particulars of National Dried Milk, Cod Liver Oil, and Fruit Juices distributed to expectant and nursing mothers and to children under five years of age are as follows:—

NATIONAL DRIED MILK.

Number of packets given free	... ..	1886
„ „ sold at reduced rates	... ..	3953

COD LIVER OIL, FRUIT JUICES, ETC.

Number of bottles of Cod Liver Oil	... ..	8223
„ „ Fruit Juices	... ..	14869
„ containers Black Currant Syrup	... ..	695
„ „ „ „ Puree	... ..	1793

DRIED MILK (OTHER THAN NATIONAL DRIED MILK).

Sold lb. Packets, 19,805 realising	£1,685 16s. 3d.
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INFANT MORTALITY.

Nett Deaths from Stated Causes in weeks and months under one year of age.

CAUSES OF DEATH.	Under 1 Week.	1—2 Weeks.	2—3 Weeks.	3—4 Weeks.	Total under 1 month.	4 Weeks and under 3 months.	3—6 months.	6—9 months.	9—12 months.	Total Deaths under 1 year.	Deaths in previous year.
All causes—Certified	25	1	1	—	27	10	10	7	3	57	80
Uncertified	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Small-pox ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Chicken-pox ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Measles ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	1	—
Scarlet Fever ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Whooping Cough ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3
Diphtheria & Croup	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Influenza ...	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	1	3	3
Erysipelas ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Tubercular Meningitis	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	1	1
Abdom'l Tuberculosis	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Other Tuberculous Diseases ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	1
Meningitis (not Tuberculous) ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	1	—
Convulsions ...	1	—	1	—	2	2	2	1	—	7	7
Laryngitis ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Bronchitis ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Pneumonia (all forms)	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	2	1	5	13
Diarrhoea ...	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	1	—	2	2
Enteritis ...	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	—	—	2	5
Gastritis ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Syphilis ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Rickets ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Suffocation, Overlying	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	1	1
Injury at birth ...	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	1	3
Atelectasis ...	2	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	2	1
Congenital Malformations ...	4	—	—	—	4	2	2	—	—	8	11
Premature Birth ...	15	—	—	—	15	—	—	—	—	15	16
Atrophy, Debility, Marasmus ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	—	2	5
Other Causes ...	2	1	—	—	3	1	1	—	—	5	8
Totals ...	25	1	1	—	27	10	10	7	3	57	80

CHILD LIFE PROTECTION.

No. of persons who were receiving children for reward at Jan. 1st	20
do. on Register at December 31st	13
No. of children under 9 years on Register at Jan. 1st	6
do. Deaths of children during the year	—
do. Inquests on children dealt with under the Act	—
do. Children on Register at December 31st	13
do. Visits during the year	62
Health Visitors who are Infant Protection Visitors	7

WAR TIME NURSERIES.

Two War Time Day Nurseries for children under five years of age were opened on 27th July, 1942, one at Somerville, Wallasey, with accommodation for forty children and the other at Eastway, Moreton, with accommodation for fifty-five children. Both nurseries are one storied pre-cast buildings, but at the latter provision has been made to accommodate 25 of the 55 children in the Eastway School which adjoins the Nursery.

The number of children attending Eastway Nursery has been very disappointing, but a recent decision to convey the children in Civil Defence vehicles to the Nursery from a central collecting point and to return them in the evening has resulted in an improvement.

The average number of children attending in December, 1942, was as follows:—

Somerville	...	15.	Eastway	...	19.
------------	-----	-----	---------	-----	-----

The small attendance at Somerville Nursery was due to the prevalence of Measles and Whooping Cough, although there was a full register.

AMBULANCE FACILITIES.

On the formation of the National Fire Service the responsibility of maintaining an ambulance service for accidents, etc. was transferred from the Watch Committee to the Health Committee. The vehicles, however, were not handed over until February, 1942, and the service was carried on until that time by using civil defence vehicles. The number of cases dealt with during 1942 was as follows:—

Street, works and other accidents	...	...	414
Cases of sudden illness	...	...	102
Private cases	...	...	899
Public Assistance cases	...	...	385
Service cases	...	...	38

CASES OF INFECTIOUS DISEASE (Including Tuberculosis) NOTIFIED IN WALLASEY DURING 1941.

NOTIFIABLE DISEASE.	Notifi- cations.	Cases notified at ages											
		0-1	1-2	2-3	3-4	4-5	5-10	10-15	15-20	20-35	35-45	45-65	Over 65
Small-pox	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Malaria	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Dysentery	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Diphtheria (including Membranous Croup)	312	2	7	6	17	15	83	79	42	50	8	3	—
Erysipelas	19	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	3	2	8	5
Scarlet Fever	167	1	8	5	8	19	83	32	7	2	1	1	—
Enteric Fever	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—
Puerperal Pyrexia	6	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	4	2	—	—
Cerebro-Spinal Meningitis	5	—	1	—	—	—	—	1	—	1	2	—	—
Poliomyelitis	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Pneumonia	16	1	—	—	—	—	1	1	2	3	2	4	2
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	3	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Pulmonary Tuberculosis	93	—	1	—	—	—	—	3	14	38	15	20	2
Other forms of Tuber- culosis	13	—	—	2	—	—	3	1	3	2	—	2	—
Measles	652	23	49	56	76	89	334	17	5	3	—	—	—
Whooping Cough	44	4	6	8	8	3	15	—	—	—	—	—	—
Encephalitis Lethargica	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Polio-Encephalitis	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
TOTALS.....	1331	34	72	77	109	126	519	136	73	106	32	38	9

IMMUNISATION.

During the year, 3,490 children received the full course of Immunisation treatment against Diphtheria.

In addition 870 children who had been immunised were Schick-tested. Of these 43 children, or 4.94% proved positive and were re-immunised.

DIPHTHERIA IMMUNISATION.

TABLE SHOWING NUMBER OF CHILDREN IMMUNISED — BY AGE GROUPS.

Age at date of Inoculation	1935	1936	1937	1938	1939	1940	1941	1942	
Under 1 year	—	—	—	—	—	—	8	21	
1 year	8	6	3	21	5	18	101	357	Total under
2 years	9	22	12	17	13	23	111	309	5 years of age
3 years	10	38	11	24	10	27	115	295	at 31/12/42
4 years	11	125	65	31	12	30	101	306	1,669
5 years	90	313	160	206	29	45	136	308	
6 years	60	221	114	230	10	44	85	243	
7 years	35	110	65	120	15	20	76	220	
8 years	9	25	13	6	3	2	47	247	Total under
9 years	2	13	6	—	—	4	41	238	15 years of
10 years	4	4	—	1	2	3	45	228	age at
11 years	2	3	1	1	1	4	27	188	31/12/42
12 years	—	3	1	—	—	4	22	203	5,237
13 years	—	4	—	—	4	1	22	237	
14 years	1	2	—	—	2	—	9	57	
15 years	—	—	—	—	3	—	4	21	
Over 15 years	4	—	—	—	1	5	1	12	
<i>Total</i>	245	889	451	657	110	230	951	3,490	

PUBLIC HEALTH (SMALL-POX PREVENTION) REGULATIONS, 1917.

No primary vaccinations or re-vaccinations were performed by the Medical Officer of Health during the year.

VACCINATION.

Statement of Vaccination for year ending 31st December, 1941 :

Births	...	...	...	...	...	...	779
Successfully vaccinated	...	...	...	...	...	...	426
Insusceptible	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
Had Smallpox	...	...	...	...	...	...	—
Died unvaccinated	...	...	...	...	...	...	41
Postponed by Medical Authority	...	...	...	...	...	...	6
Certificates of Exemption (Conscientious objection)	...	...	...	...	...	...	129
Removals certified	...	...	...	...	...	...	3
Removals not found and not accounted for	...	...	...	...	...	...	87

MEASLES.

587 cases were notified and 65 reported during 1942. Two of the cases proved fatal.

WHOOPIING COUGH.

33 cases were notified and 11 reported during the year.
None of the cases proved fatal.

SCABIES.

Owing to the increase in the number of cases of Scabies, a treatment centre was opened in May, 1941 at the New Street Clinic, and continued daily during 1942. 811 cases were treated during the year, and 359 patients were re-examined. In addition a few cases who were unable to attend at the Clinic were given out-patient treatment at the Infectious Diseases Hospital, Mill Lane.

DISINFECTION.

Visits to houses <i>re</i> disinfections	..	..	..	..	..	..	1,342
Rooms disinfected	..	..	..	..	..	..	169
Books from Public, Private, or School Libraries disinfected	..	..	..	..	..	..	287
Articles disinfected	..	..	..	..	..	..	8,314

ISOLATION HOSPITAL.

The accompanying table gives particulars of the cases admitted to Mill Lane Infectious Diseases Hospital during 1942 :—

	In Hospital 1st Jan. 1942	Ad- mitted	Recov- ered and Dis- charged	Died	In Hospital 31st Dec. 1942	
Diphtheria	33	212	216	11*	18	*1 admitted 1941.
Diphtheria Carriers	3	15	15	—	3	
Laryngitis	2	3	5	—	—	Sent in as Diph.
Tonsillitis	17	78	94	—	1	*Sent in as Diph.
„ Strept	—	2	2	—	—	
Bronchitis	—	1	1	—	—	Sent in as Diph.
Scarlet Fever	3	129*	110	—	22	*1 Sent in as Diph.
Pneumonia	—	4*	3	1	—	*1 Sent in as Diph. 1 Sent in as Typh. 1 Sent in as C.S.M.
Cerebro-spinal Meningitis	—	3	8	—	—	
T.B. Meningitis	—	2	1	1	—	
Erysipelas	—	5	5	—	—	
Measles	—	12*	12	—	—	*1 Sent in as Scarlet Fever.
Whooping Cough	—	2	2	—	—	
Paratyphoid B,	—	1	1	—	—	
Colitis	—	1	1	—	—	Sent in as Typhoid.
Chicken Pox	1	2	3	—	—	
Scabies	—	3	3	—	—	
Breast Abscess	—	1	1	—	—	From Highfield Maternity Hosp.
Dermatitis	—	1	1	—	—	Sent in as Measles.
Urticaria	—	2	2	—	—	Sent in as S.F.
Nil Disease	—	13*	13	—	—	4 sent in as Diph. 7 sent in as S.F. 2 sent in as Measles. Sent in as Diph.
Retro Pharyngeal Abscess	—	1	1	—	—	
	59	493	495	13	44	

TUBERCULOSIS.

There has been a very large increase of new cases attending the Dispensary.

In addition, there were 32 Civilian Medical Boards under National Service (Armed Forces) Act, 1939.

CONTACTS.

There has been a marked decrease of Malnutrition among contacts for 1941 and 1942.

DEATHS.*Pulmonary Tuberculosis.*

	1942	1941	1940
No. of deaths	37	49	69
Death rate per 1,000 of population ..	0.54	0.68	0.62
Cases dead within two years of notification	20	32	29
Non-notified deaths	3	12	9

Non-Pulmonary Tuberculosis.

	1942
No. of deaths	10
Death rate per 1,000 of population .. .. .	.1
Cases dead within two years of notification	3
Non-notified deaths (5 Meningitis)	6

NOTIFICATIONS (Pulmonary).

There were 94 notifications Male 51, (12 H. M. Forces) Females 43, plus 16 transfers from other areas, and 3 from death returns. This is 27 more than in 1941.

NOTIFICATIONS (Non-Pulmonary).

There were 13 notifications (3 Male, 10 Female) plus 4 transfers from other areas, and 5 from Death returns. This is 5 fewer than 1941.

CLASSIFICATION OF NON-PULMONARY TUBERCULOSIS.

Abdomen	3	Meninges	1
Bones and Joints	2	Other Organs	3
Cervical Glands	4		

BIRKENHEAD MUNICIPAL HOSPITAL.

	<i>Pulmonary</i>	<i>Non-Pulmonary</i>	<i>Total</i>
Cases admitted during 1942	8	—	8
Discharged during 1942	6	—	6
Died „ 1942	1	—	1

Total number of Artificial Pneumothorax refills during the year 532 (166 Male, 366 Female—increase of 88—34 less for males, 122 more for females).

AFTER CARE.

All patients after discharge from the Sanatorium are kept under observation and receive frequent visits from the Health Visitors with regard to Sanatorium regime. They are also encouraged to attend the Dispensary for observation, where instruction and advice are given. Cod Liver Oil and a pint of milk daily are supplied to necessitous cases for varying periods, under an arrangement with the Wallasey Invalid Children's Association, at the expense of the Local Authority.

MILL LANE SANATORIUM.

				<i>Adults</i>	<i>Children</i>	<i>Total</i>
Admitted during 1942	..	..	..	45	1	46
Discharged during 1942	..	..	..	30	2	32
Fatal during 1942	..	..	..	4	—	4

CHESHIRE JOINT SANATORIUM.

				<i>Males</i>	<i>Females</i>	<i>Total</i>
Admitted during 1942	..	..		14	12	26
Discharged during 1942	..	..		14	10	24

Increase of admissions—11 (6 males, 5 females) over 1941. 2 beds loaned to another Authority. Call on beds increased during last 5 months of the year.

LEASOWE OPEN-AIR HOSPITAL.

				<i>Female</i> <i>Adults</i>	<i>Children</i>	<i>Total</i>
Admitted during 1942	..	..		6	2	8
Discharged during 1942	..	..		4	3	7

3 fewer cases admitted than in 1941.

HOUSING.

Of the 94 notifications of Pulmonary Tuberculosis :—

62 slept in separate bed and room.

6 slept in separate bed, but shared room.

16 shared bed and room (chiefly married couples).

6 not visited by request of medical practitioner.

2 notified from County Mental Hospital.

2 left district before visit.

VISITS.

The number of visits paid in 1942 by the Dispensary Nurses and Health Visitors was 1122 (Wallasey 942, Moreton 180).

TUBERCULIN SKIN TESTS.

Of 58 children tested—37 were contacts of cases of Tuberculosis. 50% gave a positive re-action. These cases will be kept under observation.

Of the remaining non-contact cases only 25% showed a positive re-action.

375 X-ray examinations were made compared with 362 in 1941.

12 Orthopaedic cases were also X-rayed.

In addition there were 12 examinations (7 male, 5 female) of candidates for admission to the Corporation Superannuation Scheme.

RETURN FOR THE YEAR 1942.

Diagnosis.	Pulmonary.				Non-Pulmonary.				Total.				Grand Total.
	Adults.		Children.		Adults.		Children.		Adults.		Children.		
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	
A.—New Cases examined during the year (excluding contacts) :— (a) Definitely tuberculous *(b) Diagnosis not completed (c) Non-Tuberculous	37	32	1	—	1	5	2	2	38	37	3	2	= 80 = — = 222
B.—Contacts examined during the year :— (a) Definitely tuberculous *(b) Diagnosis not completed (c) Non-tuberculous	3	5	—	1	—	—	—	—	3	5	—	1	= 9 = — = 137
C.—Cases written off the Dispensary Register as— (a) Recovered (b) Non-Tuberculous (including any such cases previously diagnosed and entered on the Dispensary Register as tuberculous)	4	4	—	—	1	—	1	1	5	4	1	1	= 11
D.—Number of Cases on Dispensary Register on December 31st :— (a) Definitely tuberculous (b) Diagnosis not completed	151	141	8	6	13	20	20	22	164	146	65	36	= 381 = — } 381

1. Number of cases on Dispensary Register on January 1st	..	322	7. Number of consultations with medical practitioners :— (a) Personal (b) Other .. ..	.. .. .. ..	Inform- ation not available
2. Number of cases transferred from other areas and cases returned after discharge under Head 3 in previous years	.. ..	33	8. Number of visits by Tuberculosis Officer to homes (including personal consultations)	.. ..
3. Number of cases transferred to other areas, cases not desiring further assistance under the scheme, and cases "lost sight of"	.. ..	21	9. Number of visits by Nurses or Health Visitors to homes for Dispensary purposes	.. ..	1122
4. Cases written off during the year as Dead (all causes)	.. ..	30	10. Number of :— (a) Specimens of sputum, etc., examined (b) X-ray examinations made in connection with Dispensary work	.. .. .. ..	289 575
5. Number of attendances at the Dispensary (including Contacts)	..	1669 Tub. 222 Mal.	11. Number of "Recovered" cases restored to Dispensary Register, and included in A (a) and A (b) above	.. ..	—

VENEREAL DISEASE.

The number of new cases for 1942 was 53—an increase of 15 over 1941. After deducting the Non-Venereal cases, the number of definite cases was 28, which is 7 more than in 1941, which was the smallest number for any year on record.

Attendances were :—	1942	1941	1940	1939
Males	405	911	1,468	1,138
Females	248	182	112	129

A considerable increase of Female attendances.

The following are particulars of 28 cases of V. D.

				Syphilis	Gonorrhoea
Males .. ..	..	..	..	4	13
Females .. ..	..	..	..	9	2

80 specimens in connection with the clinic were examined at the Laboratory, Mill Lane Dispensary. 46 specimens of blood were sent from the clinic for Wasserman re-action. Information has always been sought for and advice given to patients proceeding to other areas, re hours and places of attendance.

Return of Wallasey Residents treated in Liverpool and Birkenhead areas during the year.

				L'pool	B'head
Syphilis .. ..	..	..	..	9	8
Chancre .. ..	..	..	..	2	—
Gonorrhoea .. ..	..	..	..	17	7
Conditions other than Venereal .. ..	..	..	..	21	8
				—	—
				49	23
				—	—
Total attendance of all cases .. ..	..	..	..	581	567

LABORATORY WORK.

The arrangements for carrying out the bacteriological work in the Borough are :—

Simple throat swabs in connection with Diphtheria cases, specimens of sputum in connection with Phthisis cases, and various discharges in connection with Venereal Diseases are examined at our own Laboratory, Mill Lane Dispensary. Blood specimens in connection with Venereal Diseases are sent to Liverpool University Laboratories for examination. Specimens from cases, and suspected cases of Infectious diseases (Diphtheria, Typhoid, etc.) are also sent to the Public Health Department Laboratory, Birkenhead.

Particulars in regard to these are :—

Specimens Examined.

Sputum	...	...	...	289
Throat Swabs	...	...	...	3646
Venereal	...	...	...	54

BLIND PERSONS ACTS, 1920-1938.

The duties of the Council under the Blind Persons Acts, 1920-1938 are administered by the Health Committee.

One Home Teacher is employed who paid 1,928 visits to blind persons during 1942.

REGISTRATION OF BLIND PERSONS.

	M.	F.	Totals
No. on Register at January 1st ...	69	80	149
No. added during the year :			
New Cases	6	3	9
Transfers from other towns	1	10	11
Totals ...	76	93	169
No. of Removals from Register owing to :—			
Leaving Wallasey	1	3	4
Death	2	4	6
Totals ...	3	7	10
No. on Register at December 31st ...	73	86	159

FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE.

No. of Wallasey cases receiving assistance from this Authority	
at January 1st	71
,, receiving assistance at December 31st	73
Amount disbursed by way of allowances, January to	
December	£3,778 2s. 11d.
No. of Wallasey cases receiving assistance from other Author-	
ities at 1st January, 1942	29
No. receiving assistance at 31st December, 1942	27
Amount disbursed by way of allowances January to	
December	£1,093 3s. 2d.
No. of cases assisted by this Authority and rechargeable to	
other Authorities at 1st January, 1942	8
No. receiving assistance at 31st December, 1942	10
Amount disbursed by way of Allowances January to	
December	£560 5s. 7d.

MEDICAL EXAMINATION.

During the twelve months ending 31st December, 1942, twelve people were examined by Dr. H. R. Bickerton of whom seven were found to be blind, while five could not be certified.

The average age of the twelve blind people was 65 years 9 months.

REMOVAL AND DISPOSAL OF HOUSE REFUSE.

This work is carried out under the direction of the Borough Surveyor. There are no ashpits in the Borough. Particulars as to the quantities of refuse and salvage disposed of in the past year are as under :—

House, &c. Refuse—	T.	C.	Q.
Delivered to Refuse Disposal Works ...	6,264	13	0
Quantity tipped away	6,601	0	0
	12,865	13	0
Salvage, &c. material... ..	2,736	1	3
	15,601	14	3

Wet refuse collected in added areas and delivered to farms, 104 loads.

HOUSING.

One new house was erected, 28 in course of erection, and no houses were converted into flats during 1942.

No Demolition or Clearance Areas were scheduled during 1942.

FOOD AND DRUGS ACT, 1938.

During the year 193 samples were analysed, 19 of which were found to be adulterated. Proceedings were taken in three instances, two of milk containing respectively 11% and 20% added water, both cases being dismissed on payment of 14/6 costs; and one prosecution re sausage containing 625 parts per million sulphur di-oxide, was dismissed on payment of 19/6 costs. No proceedings were taken in the remaining cases, the adulteration being slight.

FERTILISERS AND FEEDING STUFFS ACT.

Twelve samples of Fertilisers and one sample of Feeding Stuffs were submitted for analysis during the year. One sample of Fertilizer failed to comply with the requirements of the Act.

Control and Supervision of Milk Supplies (Biological Examination).

The following is a summary of the work carried out since 1939 :

	1942	1941	1940	1939
No. of Milk Samples taken ..	68	190	256	298
No. of positive results (T.B.)	7	18	18	34
Percentage	10.29	9.47	7.03	11.31

Milk Production in Registered Dairies.

There are 14 registered cow-keepers in the Borough, 5 being licensed producers of Accredited Milk. There are 38 registered dairies, a number of which are licensed for the sale of milk under the terms of the Milk (Special Designations) Order, 1936-40. There are also 55 shops registered for the sale of milk in sealed bottles.

Number of visits to Dairy Farms	..	53
Number of visits to Registered Dairy		
Premises	.. .. .	340

Designated Milks.

The following is a summary of Licences issued by this Authority under the terms of the Milk (Special Designations) Order, 1936-40 :

Farms licensed for the production of Accredited Milk	5
Dairies licensed to bottle and retail T.T. Milk	.. 5
Dairies licensed to retail bottled T.T. Milk	.. .. 8
Dairies licensed to produce Pasteurised Milk	.. 2
Dairies licensed to bottle and retail Pasteurised Milk	7

During the year 108 samples of milk were submitted for bacteriological examination, 61 proved to be unsatisfactory, and in cases where it was found that the unsatisfactory milk was originating from sources outside the Borough, the authorities at the production end were communicated with. The unsatisfactory state of milk entering the Borough during the year was brought to the notice of the Ministry of Health and the Ministry of Food with a view to effecting an improvement in respect of quality and cleanliness.

Milk in Schools.

Pasteurised milk is supplied to school children in bottles containing one-third pint at a charge of $\frac{1}{2}$ d. per bottle. During the year 1,456,942 bottles were supplied, including 39,863 bottles which were supplied free by the Education Committee to necessitous children. Two-thirds of a pint of milk per day is now available to every child desirous of partaking this quantity.

Supervision of Meat Supplies.

All home-killed meat is brought into the Borough dead. Nevertheless, strict control and supervision is exercised over both fresh and imported meat supplies at all retail shops, including those premises where cooked meat and made-up products are prepared. The slaughter of bacon pigs has taken place at various farms on licence issued by the Ministry of Food. In all cases post-mortem examinations of the carcasses were carried out.

Unwholesome and diseased foodstuffs comprising fruit, vegetables, fish, poultry, rabbits, dairy produce, and provisions, including miscellaneous tinned foods, were dealt with. Whenever possible the seized foodstuffs were diverted for animal feeding purposes.

Information was laid during the year against a person for unlawfully slaughtering a pig in contravention of the Livestock (Restrictions of Slaughtering) Order, 1940. He was convicted and

fined £10. The proceedings were instituted at the instance of the Food Control Committee.

Number of visit to butchers and other shops .. 653

Training was given to members of the food trades in the principles and practice of decontaminating food exposed to war gases. Part of a bombed school has been adapted for the purpose of food decontamination.

Wallasey and Alfred Lairages.

Landing Place for Irish and Isle of Man Animals and Foreign Animals Landing Wharf.

28 cattle were slaughtered for emergency reasons. Routine post-mortem inspection was made in every case.

Administration of Diseases of Animals Acts and Orders.

Inspections were made during the year of pig-keepers' premises to ensure the isolation and detention of store pigs brought on to the premises under licence issued under the Movement of Swine Order of 1922.

The requirements contained in the Warble Fly (Dressing of Cattle) Order, 1938, were suspended on account of the necessary dressing powder (derris root) being unavailable.

During the year, notice was served under Article 2 of the Tuberculosis Order, 1938, on a cow-keeper having on his premises an animal suspected of being affected with Tuberculosis. Notices were also served on two pig-keepers in respect of pigs on their premises suspected of being affected with swine Fever. In one case the disease was confirmed by the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries, and the animals which remained alive on the premises were slaughtered and the carcasses disposed of by burning under the supervision of this Department.

All farmers and stock owners were visited in respect of a suspected outbreak of Foot and Mouth Disease at a farm situate in Wirral and near to the Wallasey Borough boundary.

Visits to farms, piggeries and other premises : 212.

SANITARY INSPECTION OF THE DISTRICT.

WORK OF THE DISTRICT INSPECTORS.

No. of houses visited	...	...	...	...	...	...	3,937
Special complaints investigated	...	...	...	...	...	...	2,816
No. of defects discovered	...	...	...	...	...	...	3,440
Interviews, appointments, supervisional visits and revisits	...	...	...	...	...	...	139
Matters dealt with from and to other departments	...	...	...	...	...	...	368
Information laid	...	...	...	...	...	...	10
Magistrates orders obtained	...	...	...	...	...	...	3
Warrants to enter obtained	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Cases withdrawn on payment of costs or dismissed under the Probation of Offenders Act	...	...	...	...	...	...	6
Fines, etc.	...	...	...	...	...	...	16/-
Exchanging Toys for Rags Convictions	...	...	...	...	...	...	—
„ „ „ fines and costs	...	...	...	...	...	...	—

ABATEMENT OF NUISANCES.

No. of Notices served	...	...	...	...	...	...	2,932
Reinspections	...	...	...	...	...	...	6,589

Sewerage and Drainage.

The water-carriage system is used throughout the Borough, the resulting crude sewage being discharged into the River Mersey at suitable points.

Where necessary certain of the main Watercourses in the Western part of the Borough have been cleaned out and where practicable regraded to improved falls.

The usual sewer flushing operations have been carried on during the year so far as prevailing circumstances permitted.

Sewer Construction.

Information with regard to Sewerage is kindly supplied by the Borough Engineer and Surveyor. During the year Sewer work has been restricted to maintenance and minor items of repair including the relaying of approximately 10 yards of 15 inch diameter cast iron outfall sewer.

No new sewers have been constructed during 1942.

DRAIN RECONSTRUCTION AND TESTS.

Drains reconstructed or partially reconstructed	...	...	4
Drain tests by smoke or water	...	...	7

FLUSHING.

The Local Authority voluntarily flush the drains of all houses in the Borough. During the past year the drains of 7,397 houses were flushed. In addition, the drains at 95 schools, public buildings, etc., were also flushed.

BYELAWS WITH RESPECT TO NUISANCES, ETC.

No. of inspections and reinspections of stable yards	...	30
Notices served	...	—
Visits to Marine Stores	...	1
„ encampments	...	5
Sub-let houses visited	...	—
Rooms inspected	...	—
Infringements	...	—

PUBLIC BUILDINGS.

Visits to schools, theatres, picturedromes and Public conveniences 63

ICE CREAM PREMISES.

No. of visits to premises where Ice Cream is sold ... 81

DISINFESTATION.

Houses infested with vermin	...	233
„ disinfested	...	233

RAG FLOCK ACTS, 1911-1928.

Premises visited where Rag Flock is used ... 2

FACTORY INSPECTION.

No. of visits to Factories and Workplaces	...	...	...	33
„ notices served for contraventions	...	...	...	—
„ Factories on register	...	...	...	360
„ Workplaces „	...	...	...	86
„ Visits to Outworkers	...	...	...	2

BAKEHOUSES.

No. of Bakehouses on register	...	...	...	...	76
Visits	...	...	...	...	213
Contraventions discovered	...	...	...	...	8
Notices served	...	...	...	...	8

SHOP HOURS ACTS, 1912-1936.

No. of cases pending 1 January, 1942	...	...	...	—
Contraventions discovered	...	...	...	2
Convictions obtained	...	...	...	1
Cases dismissed under the Probation of Offenders Act	...	...	...	—
Cases pending, 31 December, 1942	...	...	...	—
Warnings issued	...	...	...	1
Fines and Costs	...	...	...	2/6

RATS AND MICE DESTRUCTION ACT.

SUMMARY OF WORK DONE DURING THE YEAR.

Complaints received	...	... 436	Baits consumed	...	... 354
Visits and re-visits	...	...6004	Rats caught	...	...1020
Notices served	...	... 34	Mice found dead or caught	...	... 298
Traps set	...	... 568	Income for services of Rat-		
Baits laid	...	... 444	catcher	...	£35 15 0



COUNTY BOROUGH OF WALLASEY
EDUCATION COMMITTEE.



Annual Report

OF THE

SCHOOL MEDICAL OFFICER

For the Year 1942.

STAFF.

RONALD B. BERRY, M.D., Ch.B., D.P.H.
Medical Officer of Health and School Medical Officer.

EGON LEWIT, M.D. (Prague), M.R.C.S. (Eng.), L.R.C.P. (Lond.)
*Assistant Medical Officer and Assistant School Medical Officer
 from 3/4/1942.*

MARGARET J. T. LEITCH, M.B., Ch.B., M.M.S.A., D.C.H.
Assistant Medical Officer.

C. JOINSON LUYA, L.D.S.
School Dental Surgeon.

W. A. HENDERSON, L.D.S. (*joined Forces 30/9/41*).

E. G. MASON, L.D.S. (*joined Forces 21/4/41*).
Assistant School Dental Surgeons.

Miss E. W. NICHOLLS (*Certificate R.S.I.*).

Mrs. B. CHAPPELLS (*Trained Nurse*).
School Nurses.

Miss R. M. QUINTON (*Certificate R.S.I.*).

Miss L. VANCE (*S.R.N., S.C.M.*).

Miss B. JACKSON (*S.R.N., S.C.M.*),

Miss E. A. TEGGINS (*S.R.N., S.C.M.*),
Combined duties of School Nurse and Health Visitor.

Miss M. OGLE,
 (*Certificates C.S.M.M.G.,
 Diploma Liverpool University in Massage, etc.*)
Masseuse.

H. R. BICKERTON, M.A., M.B., Ch.B., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P.
 (*Ophthalmic*).

R. J. MARTIN, M.B., Ch.B., D.L.O.
 (*Ear, Nose and Throat*).

T. HARTLEY MARTIN, M.B., Ch.B.
 (*Orthopaedic*).
Visiting Specialists.

G. E. HUGHES, Education Office (*Secondary Schools*).
 R. L. BASCOMBE, Education Office (*Elementary Schools*).
Clerical Assistants.

Town Hall,
Wallasey,
22nd April, 1943.

To the CHAIRMAN and MEMBERS
of the EDUCATION COMMITTEE.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

The Year's report is again a brief statement of the work done and includes a note by Dr. Lewit on his first impressions of the physical condition of the school children.

The accommodation for the department is, as was mentioned in the last report, totally inadequate and unsuitable for the work that has to be carried out; special credit is due to the medical, nursing and clerical staff for the work they accomplish under these conditions.

There has been only one school dental surgeon during the year with the consequence that only a fraction of this section of the work has been dealt with.

I would again like to acknowledge the willing co-operation and assistance of the Director of Education and his staff and also the Head Teachers, and the work done by Inspector Banyard (Chester) of the N.S.P.C.C. during the time we were without a local Inspector.

I would also like to thank the members of the Committee who have always dealt sympathetically with any suggestions made.

I am,

Your obedient Servant,

RONALD B. BERRY,

School Medical Officer.

GENERAL.

MEDICAL TREATMENT.

The School Nurses have again this year carried out continuous examinations of the school children and given the necessary attention to those whose condition was considered unsatisfactory. In this respect 156 visits were made to the schools in connection with Cleansing Surveys and 1,358 to the homes of the children.

The special Clinic for the treatment of Scabies which was opened in May, 1941 has continued daily sessions throughout 1942. As many of the cases attending included the treatment of families as a whole, the matter is being dealt with in the full report of the Medical Officer of Health.

During the year measures were also taken to steadily improve the amenities of the temporary School Clinics referred to in last year's report, which were set up as a result of damage to the main Clinic by enemy action in 1941. Such necessary additions as washing facilities and Clinic furniture have materially assisted in the more efficient carrying out of the work.

NUTRITION.

Special attention was again directed to all cases of malnutrition or suspected malnutrition.

In this connection, recommendations in respect of free meals and/or milk totalled 160 cases. Of this number 96 were recommended for free dinners, 8 for free milk and 56 for both milk and dinners.

PROVISION OF MEALS AND SUPPLY OF MILK.

The number of meals (dinners) supplied free of cost for the period 1st January to 31st December, 1942, was 15,935. Similarly, for the corresponding period, 39,863 bottles of milk containing one-third of a pint, were supplied free to children in the schools, excluding Elleray Park Special School.

GENERAL REMARKS ON THE EFFECTS OF THE WAR ON THE PHYSICAL AND MENTAL WELFARE OF THE SCHOOL CHILDREN.

During the fourth year of the war, our attention is naturally focussed upon the standard of nutrition among schoolchildren. On the basis of the findings it can be said that on the whole the younger children are better fed than the adolescents.

A corollary is provided by the following signs of a qualitative lack in the food: tetany in the elementary schools amounted to 10-11%—a high figure indeed; in the secondary schools it amounted to 13½%—even more surprising; orthopaedic defects averaged 2½% of the elementary schoolchildren examined, whereas in the secondary schools the average was 14%; the elementary schools showed about the same average percentage of dental defects as the secondary schools; cases of disturbance of the heart functions amounted to 3-4% only in the elementary schools, but 12-17½% in the secondary schools; tuberculous affections, however, were more numerous in the elementary schools.

We must therefore conclude that although children from the ages of 7 to 12 are showing signs of qualitative under-nourishment, the present standard of feeding seems to have affected even more adversely the older children.

The average weekly attendance at the School Clinics was 54; the number of attendances increased steadily in the course of the year. In addition to the children followed up after the routine inspection, many were sent to the Clinics on the initiative of the parents.

EVACUATION.

Evacuation during 1942 was on a very small scale. 44 children were medically examined and sent to Reception Areas under the school registration scheme.

REPORT OF Dr. T. HARTLEY MARTIN, Orthopaedic Surgeon.

18 sessions have been held at **New Street Clinic**, at which 198 New Cases have been seen and 367 Re-examinations made (an average of 31 cases per session).

These cases are further elaborated as follows:—

	<i>In relation to School Age</i>					
	Boys.	Girls.	Boys	Girls.	Boys	Girls.
	<i>Under</i>		<i>Of</i>		<i>Over</i>	
<i>New Cases.</i>	23	23	66	86	—	—
Non-Tuberculous ..	46		152		—	
Tuberculous	—		—		—	
<i>Re-examinations</i>	52	81	128	97	2	1
Non-Tuberculous ..	133		225		3	
Tuberculous	—		4		—	
			6			

In Table 1 (appended) the cases are shown classified in age groups and disease categories ; the number of cases discharged is also shown, with the reason for discharge.

Of the 412 cases which have been on the Clinic register during the past year, 8 or 1.9% have been admitted to the Children's Hospital, Leasowe, for treatment.

These cases were as follows :—

Spastic Paralysis	2 Cases	Stay in Hospital	380 days
Congenital Deformities	3 Cases	„ „ „	469 „
Acquired Deformities	1 Case	„ „ „	72 „
Rickets	1 Case	„ „ „	163 „
Non T.B. Ostritis	1 Case	„ „ „	71 „

The total number of days spent in hospital was 1,159 (48.4% being devoted to children under school age) which is equivalent to three beds being occupied throughout the year.

Of the 8 cases, 5 or 62.5% were of school age.

The work of the Massage and Remedial Exercises Department is of the greatest value in preventive and curative work.

During the past twelve months 3,222 treatments have been given to 111 cases on the register. 67 New Cases were admitted and 21 discharged.

Table II shows the cases analysed in age and disease groups, and also shows the relative amount of work devoted to children of school and pre-school age.

Attendances at the Massage Clinics are very poor, but this is probably accounted for by the absorption of women into war work.

Visits by Surgeon	..	..	..	..	..	18
Attendances by Orthopaedic Sister	..	..	..	..	..	44
New Cases Examined	..	..	..	..	..	198
Re-examinations..	..	..	..	..	..	367

Massage and Remedial Exercises Department.

		Boys	Girls	Total
Number of Patients Treated	...	62	49	111
do. Attendances of Cases	...	1817	1405	3222
do. New Cases Referred for Treatment	...	41	28	69
do. Cases in which the Treatment has been Terminated		12	9	21

Seven clinics have been held at **Oakenholt Road Clinic**, at which 59 new cases were seen and 104 re-examinations were made

In greater detail these cases are :—

		<i>In relation to School Age</i>					
		<i>Under</i>		<i>Of</i>		<i>Over</i>	
		<i>Boys.</i>	<i>Girls.</i>	<i>Boys.</i>	<i>Girls.</i>	<i>Boys.</i>	<i>Girls.</i>
<i>New Cases.</i>		12	10	21	16	—	—
		22		37			
Non-Tuberculous	..	22		37			
Tuberculous	..	—	—	—	—	1	—
<i>Re-examinations.</i>		25	16	32	21	—	3
		41		53		3	
Non-Tuberculous	..	41		53		3	
Tuberculous	..	—	1	—	4	—	2

Table I shows the cases arranged in disease categories and age groups. The number of cases discharged and the reasons for discharge are also given.

Of the 99 Non-Tuberculous cases in the register 3 cases of school age have been admitted to Hospital :

Spastic Paralysis : 1 case (of school age) stay in hospital 38 days;
Non-T.B. Osteitis : 1 case (of school age) stay in hospital 89 days;
Congenital Deformity : 1 case (under school age) stay in hospital 78 days.

The Massage and Remedial Exercise work is still undertaken at the Leasowe Hospital. 51 treatments have been given to 4 cases. 2 new cases have been referred for treatment and 1 discharged.

It is still felt that now the Massage Services are to be given at the Clinic, a greater number of children will be able to attend more regularly for treatment.

Visits by Surgeon	..	..	..	..	..	7
Attendances by Orthopaedic Sister	..	..	..	..	..	11
New Cases Examined	..	..	..	..	..	59
Re-examinations	..	..	..	..	..	104

Massage and Remedial Exercises Department.

		<i>Boys.</i>	<i>Girls.</i>	<i>Total</i>
Number of Patients Treated	... ..	1	3	4
Do. Attendances of Cases	... ..	32	19	51
Do. New Cases Referred for Treatment	... ..	—	2	2
Do. Cases in which the Treatment has been Terminated	... ..	—	1	1

New Street Orthopaedic Clinic.

TABLE 1.

Disease Categories.	Remaining			New cases			Remaining			Discharged, 1942.					
	1941.			1942.			1942.			Cured.	Relieved.	Over Age— Relieved.	Left District.	Refused Treatment.	Unsuitable
	Under	Of	Over	Under	Of	Over	Under	Of	Over						
Infantile Paralysis ..	—	10	—	—	1	—	—	4	—	—	1	1	5	—	—
Spastic Paralysis ...	4	8	—	1	3	—	3	5	—	—	2	1	4	1	—
Rickets	4	3	—	5	—	—	5	—	—	5	—	—	2	—	—
Tuber- { Osteitis &	—	5	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	2	1	—	—	—
culous { Arthritis	—	5	—	—	1	—	—	1	—	1	1	—	2	1	—
Non-Tubercul's do.	—	5	—	—	1	—	—	1	—	1	1	—	2	1	—
Deformities—															
Congenital... ..	16	25	—	6	13	—	13	18	—	10	4	2	12	1	—
Deformities—															
Acquired	57	65	—	26	86	—	34	105	—	70	2	2	20	1	—
Diagnosis	9	3	—	8	48	—	3	1	—	—	—	—	1	—	63
Totals	90	124	—	46	152	—	58	136	—	86	12	7	46	4	63

MESSAGE RETURN.

TABLE 2.

Disease Categories.	Attendances.								Cases	
	Of School age.						Under School Age.		Number of cases.	
	Boys			Girls			Boys.	Girls.		
	Attending School.	Not attending School	Attending Special School.	Attending School.	Not attending School.	Attending Special School.				
Infantile Paralysis	128	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	
Spastic Paralysis	—	—	—	—	—	165	—	—	3	
Rickets	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
T.B —Osteitis and Arthritis ..	—	—	—	—	—	40	—	—	1	
Non-T.B.— Do. ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
Congenital Deformities	274	—	30	122	—	115	148	128	20	
Acquired Deformities	315	—	734	406	—	454	101	54	75	
Totals	717	—	764	528	—	774	249	182	101	
	1481			1302			431			
Totals	2783						431			
Percentages	86.5%						13.5%			

Oakenholt Road Orthopaedic Clinic.

TABLE 1.

Disease Categories.	Remaining			New Cases			Remaining			Discharged, 1942.						
	1941.			1942.			1942.			Cured	Relieved.	Over age— relieved.	Left District.	Refused Treatment.	Unsuitable.	Died.
	Under	Of	Over	Under	Of	Over	Under	Of	Over							
Infantile Paralysis	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Spastic Paralysis ..	1	3	—	1	—	—	1	3	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Rickets	1	—	—	1	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—
Tuber- { Osteitis &	1	4	—	—	—	1	—	2	1	—	—	1	1	1	—	—
culous { Arthritis ..	—	1	1	—	1	—	—	1	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	—
Non-Tuberculous do.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Deformities—																
Congenital	2	5	—	4	—	—	4	5	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	—
Deformities—																
Acquired	6	15	—	10	15	—	10	17	—	13	—	—	1	5	—	—
Diagnosis	2	1	—	6	21	—	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	26	—
Totals	13	29	2	22	37	1	19	28	3	15	—	1	2	10	26	—

MESSAGE RETURN.

TABLE 2.

Disease Categories.	Attendances.								Cases.		
	Of School Age.						Under School Age.	Over School Age.	Number of cases.	% of total cases.	
	Boys			Girls							
	Attending School.	Not attending School.	Attending Special School.	Attending School.	Not attending School.	Attending Special School.	Boys.	Girls.	Boys.	Girls.	
Infantile Paralysis	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Spastic Paralysis	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	10	—	—	1
Rickets	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
T.B.—Osteitis and Arthritis	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Non-T.B.—do.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Congenital Deformities	—	—	—	—	—	—	32	—	—	—	1
Acquired Deformities	—	—	—	8	—	—	—	1	—	—	2
Totals	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Totals	8						43				
Percentages	15.7%						74.3%				

REPORT ON THE WORK OF THE REMEDIAL SPEECH- TRAINING CLASSES.

MISS B. C. HOPPER.

In September, 1942, 24 children were in attendance at the Remedial Speech Training Classes held at Vaughan Road School. 6 of these children had been attending previously. 5 children were attending at Eastway School Centre, Moreton, and 7 more were admitted.

Since January, 1943, the numbers attending the Vaughan Road School have increased to 36 and those attending the Eastway School Centre to 18.

Of these children 15 are cases of stammering,

6 are very backward readers due to varying degrees of word-blindness,

33 have functional or physiological defects of articulation.

The classes at the Vaughan Road School Centre consist of one class for stammerers, one for word-blind cases, and one each for senior and junior speech defects—occupying two sessions in all.

One session at the Eastway School Centre consists of two classes, one for stammerers and one for speech defects.

It will be seen from the above figures that the classes have increased in size steadily. There is now a waiting list of children who will be admitted as soon as some of those now attending can be discharged.

The progress being made is promising, particularly in the cases of partial word-blindness and defective articulation. A noticeable improvement has been brought about in three severe cases of physiological defects.

It is hoped to arrange smaller groups for the more severe cases as soon as time permits. The co-operation in both schools and homes is very encouraging.

Elleray Park Special School.

No. of Children on the Register, January 1st, 1942.

Boys 30.	Girls 24.	Total 54.
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Removed from the Register during the year—25

Congenital Heart	1
Club Foot	1
Nephritis (died)	1
Asthma	3
T.B. Spine	1
Malnutrition	11
Other Evacuees resident at Rigby House	7

Admitted during the year :—21.

No. of Children on the Register, December 31st, 1942.—

Boys 29.	Girls 21.	Total 50.
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Classified as follows :—				<i>Boys</i>	<i>Girls</i>
Spastic Paralysis		2	2
Infantile Paralysis		2	—
Asthma	..	..		5	—
Congenital Heart	..	..		3	—
Rheumatic Heart	..	..		2	—
Valvular Disease Heart	..			4	2
Rheumatism	..	..		—	1
Chorea	..	..		1	3
Malnutrition	..	..		10	11
Bronchiectasis	..	..		—	1
Nervous Debility	..	..		—	1

Medical Records Cards.

10 applications were received during 1942 from one Medical Practitioner under the National Health Insurance (Juvenile Contributors and Young Persons) Act, 1937, for confidential information to be obtained from the School Medical Records.

Information respecting 2 boys and 3 girls was returned.

Children Medically Examined for Employment Cards, 1942.

Delivering Newspapers	..	..	..	140
Delivering Milk	..	..	..	15
Total				155

Children medically examined for Entertainment Licences total 8.

REPORT OF SENIOR SCHOOL DENTAL OFFICER.

The Dental Clinic is now firmly established in its war-time quarters at "Thornville" 47, Liscard Village, with a staff consisting of one full-time Dental Officer, one full-time Dental Nurse and one part-time Dental Nurse.

There is also the Branch Clinic at the Moreton Health Centre, but "Thornville" Clinic is the headquarters, and the place where there is the larger attendance.

At "Thornville" there is one fully equipped Dental Surgery, one partially equipped Surgery which is used as a Waiting Room, and an extra Waiting Room which is used when the Clinic is very busy on anaesthetic days.

It has become increasingly difficult for one Dental Officer to cope with the children requiring treatment now that the schools are operating as usual, with something like a normal number of children in attendance ; and a large scale routine treatment of children after examination by the Dental Officer has become very difficult indeed. The situation is complicated by the number of children who, for various reasons, have during the last three years, received little or no treatment, and are now frequently in need of extraction of teeth, which are either beyond repair, or giving pain.

The Wallasey School Dental Service, during the twenty-three years it has been in operation, has used general anaesthesia with such success that it is difficult, or impossible, to persuade parents and children to have a tooth removed by any other method ; therein lies the greatest difficulty at the present moment, due to the shortage of staff. Strictly, two persons are needed to remove a tooth under nitrous oxide gas—an anaesthetist and an operator. It is only with the greatest difficulty that it has been possible to arrange for a medical anaesthetist to attend two sessions per week. This means that only a limited number of extractions under gas can be done per week—the number is far less than those applying for, or referred for treatment, and cases have often to wait for some considerable time, and frequently for a week or more. It is possible for a Dental Officer to act both as anaesthetist and operator, if assisted by two attendants, trained in the work, or even by one only. The latter can, however, only be done with picked cases, and throws a great responsibility on the Dental Officer. In view of the large number of cases requiring treatment, and in order to avoid too long a waiting period, this method has to be used.

The situation is, therefore, that the School Dental Service is keeping the framework of the original scheme in operation so that, subject to suitable premises being provided, it can rapidly re-organise on its original basis when the war ends, and also is treating as far as possible the many children whose parents are constantly asking for them to receive attention.

The dental treatment of evacuated children is now confined to a single school in Heswall, one half-day a month being allocated to this work.

REPORT ON PHYSICAL TRAINING 1942.

During the year 1942 Physical Training in the Schools of the Borough suffered three great difficulties—

(a) The lack of accommodation available both indoor and outdoor, due to schools sharing buildings etc.

(b) The shortage of staff acquainted with modern methods of Physical Training, especially in boys schools.

(c) The gradual decrease of suitable footwear in which to perform the lesson.

In spite of these difficulties a very valiant effort was made by all concerned to keep Physical Training lessons enjoyable and active though unfortunately the recommended daily lesson was not always possible.

It is hoped that the prevalent set backs of 1942 will be alleviated early in 1943 and that with the help of the recently appointed Organiser of Physical Training the good standard of work that existed before the war will once again be common to all schools of the Borough.

WALLASEY EDUCATION COMMITTEE.

MEDICAL INSPECTION, 1942.

Elementary Schools.

TABLE I.

RETURN OF MEDICAL INSPECTIONS.(A) ROUTINE MEDICAL INSPECTIONS.

Number of Inspections in the prescribed Groups:

Entrants	...	...	...	...	...	...	671
Intermediates	...	...	...	...	...	...	782
Leavers	...	...	...	...	...	...	649

Total						...	2102

Number of other Routine Inspections	...	...	...	...	...	...	---

(B) OTHER INSPECTIONS.

Number of Special Inspections and Re-Inspections ... *1793

* Does not include employment cases.

TABLE II.

(B) Classification of the Nutrition of Children Inspected during the year in the Routine Age Groups.

Number of Children Inspected	A (Excellent)		B (Normal)		C (Slightly Subnormal)		D (Bad)	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
2102	392	18.65	1264	60.13	429	20.41	17	0.81

TABLE III.—TREATMENT OF DEFECTS OF CHILDREN DURING 1942.

Group I.—TREATMENT OF MINOR AILMENTS.

(Excluding Uncleanliness, for which see Table V.)

Disease or Defect.	Number of Defects Treated.		
	Under Local Education Authority's Scheme	Otherwise	Total
Skin—			
Ringworm—Scalp	1 (*) (—)	(—) —	1
Body	5	1	6
Scabies	210	—	210
Impetigo	326	—	326
Other Skin Diseases	161	1	162
Minor Eye Defects (External & other)	137	—	137
Minor Ear Defects (Otorrhoea) ...	104	6	110
Miscellaneous	1391	104	1495
Total ...	2335	112	2447

* No X Ray cases as shewn in brackets.

GROUP II.—DEFECTIVE VISION AND SQUINT.

(Excluding Minor Eye Defects treated as Minor Ailments—Group I).

Errors of Refraction (including squint)—

No. of Defects dealt with—

Under the Authority's Scheme	261*
Otherwise	—
	<hr/> 261*

Other Defect or Disease of the Eyes (excluding those recorded in Group I)—

Under the Authority's Scheme	—
By Private Practitioner or at Hospital, apart from the Authority's Scheme	—
Otherwise	—
	<hr/>
	<hr/> 261*

* Includes 20 Secondary School cases.

No. of Children for whom spectacles were—

Prescribed—

Under the Authority's Scheme	220†
Otherwise	—

Obtained—

Under the Authority's Scheme	220†
Otherwise	—

† Includes 17 Secondary School cases.

Group III.—TREATMENT OF DEFECTS OF NOSE AND THROAT.

Received Operative Treatment—

	(i)	(ii)	(iii)	(iv)
Under the Authority's Scheme, in Clinic or Hospital	5	2	59	—
By Private Practitioner or Hospital, apart from the Authority's Scheme	—	—	—	—
Total	<hr/> 5	<hr/> 2	<hr/> 59	<hr/> —

Received other forms of Treatment

Total number treated 66

(i) Tonsils only. (ii) Adenoids only. (iii) Tonsils and Adenoids.
 (iv) Other defects of the Nose and Throat.

TABLE IV.

Group IV.—TREATMENT OF DENTAL DEFECTS.
NUMBER OF CHILDREN DEALT WITH DURING 1942.

Inspected by Dentist—

Routine Age Groups.	{	Age 5 years	...	...	...	125	}	Total 2055	
		" 6	"	...	...	...			238
		" 7	"	...	...	...			270
		" 8	"	...	...	...			130
		" 9	"	...	...	...			152
		" 10	"	...	...	...			236
		" 11	"	...	...	...			232
		" 12	"	...	...	...			202
		" 13	"	...	...	...			198
		" 14	"	...	...	...			227
		" 15	"	...	...	...			44
		" 16	"	and over	...	...			1
*Specials	...	...	...	...	...	...	547		
Grand Total							...	2602	
Referred for Treatment							...	1761	
*Specials	...	...	...	...	...	...	547		
							2308		
Actually Treated							...	1403	
*Specials	...	...	...	...	...	...	547		
							1950		

* Includes 198 cases from the Secondary Schools.

TABLE IV.—Continued.

**PARTICULARS OF TIME GIVEN AND OF OPERATIONS
UNDERTAKEN.**

SCHOOL DENTIST'S REPORT FOR THE YEAR 1942.

Number of half-days devoted to Inspection	...	15	
Number of half-days devoted to Treatment...	...	419	
		<hr/>	
Total	...	434	
		<hr/>	
Total number of attendances made by Children for treatment	... ..	3138	† (198)
Number of Permanent Teeth—			
Extracted	... ..	735	(89)
Filled	... ..	785	(321)
Number of Temporary Teeth—			
Extracted	... ..	1787	(11)
Filled	... ..	8	(—)
Total number of Fillings	... ..	793	(321)
Total number of Extractions	... ..	2522	(100)
*Number of administrations of general anaesthetics	...	1409	(76)
Number of Other Operations—			
Permanent	... ..	208	(68)
Temporary	... ..	—	(—)

*Nitrous Oxide.

† Figures in brackets denote Secondary School Statistics included
in first total.

TABLE IVa.

Particulars of Work carried out during 1942 by the School Dentist for Wallasey Children in the Reception Area to which they have been evacuated.

No. of Sessions for treatment	...	30	} Total 33
„ „ Inspection	... ..	3	
Children attending for Inspection or Treatment	...	325	
Children treated	... ..	177	
Children refusing Treatment or impossible to treat..		11	
Number of permanent teeth filled	... ..	64	
Other operations on permanent teeth	... ..	33	
Number of temporary teeth extracted	... ..	102	
Number of permanent teeth extracted	... ..	12	

TABLE V.

UNCLEANLINESS AND VERMINOUS CONDITIONS.

(1) Average number of Visits per School made during the year by the School Nurses	... ..	8.6
(2) Total number of Examinations of Children in the Schools by School Nurses	... ..	14,699
(3) Number of individual Children found unclean	...	437
(4) Number of Children cleansed under arrangements made by the Education Authority	.. ...	—
(5) Number of cases in which legal proceedings were taken—		
(a) Under the Education Act, 1921	... ..	—
(b) Under School Attendance Byelaws	... ..	—

MENTALLY DEFECTIVE CHILDREN.

Total number of Children notified during the year ended 31st December, 1942, by the Local Education Authority to the Local Mental Deficiency Authority under the Mental Deficiency (Notification of Children) Regulations, 1928 - - - - - 2.

MEDICAL INSPECTION, 1942

Secondary Schools.

TABLE I.

RETURN OF MEDICAL INSPECTIONS.(A) ROUTINE MEDICAL INSPECTIONS.

Age Groups.					Boys.	Girls.	Total.
Entrants	Under 12	...	...	...	86	98	184
Intermediates	12	...	...	...	135	108	} 601
	13	...	...	...	124	55	
	14	...	...	...	136	43	
Leavers	— 15	...	...	...	111	36	} 288
	Over 15	...	...	...	82	59	
Totals					674	399	1073

Number of other Routine Inspections —

(B) OTHER INSPECTIONS.

Number of Special Inspections and Re-Inspections —

TABLE II.

(B) Classification of the Nutrition of Children Inspected during the year in the Routine Age Groups.

Number of Children Inspected	A (Excellent)		B (Normal)		C (Slightly Subnormal)		D (Bad)	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
1073	230	21.43	656	61.14	186	17.33	1	0.1

